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The English Middle Class. By R. H. GRETTON. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1917. Pp. xii+238. $3.50.

Distinctly suggestive of the "economic interpretation of history" but quite free from any "taint" of radical propaganda is Gretton's history of the English middle class. Beginning with a definition of the middle class in terms of its attitude toward money, he develops the thesis that each stage of its growth has been correlated with an important change in the history of currency. Thus its first definite appearance in the fourteenth century coincides with the release of money from the treasuries of the Knights Templar and the hoards of the Jews. Its displacement of the old military caste was facilitated by fresh supplies of bullion from America. Its eighteenth-century commercialism was accompanied by new conceptions of exchange and new methods of taxation. Its later industrialism was made possible by the growth of the banking system. Finally its modern inclusiveness has coincided with discoveries which have placed coined money within the command of practically the whole community. Particularistic though it be, Gretton's study is well worth correlating with other views of the middle class.

STUART A. QUEEN

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The Gospel for a Working World. By HARRY FREDERICK WARD. New York Missionary Education Movement of the United States and Canada. 1918. Pp. xv+249+Bibliography+Index. $0.40.

The purpose of this volume is to state the conditions in the industrial world, and to show how the church can remedy these conditions by adopting an adequate program of presenting the teachings of Jesus to all parties in the industrial process. "It seeks to make the gospel the inspiring force and power of the whole social organism."

The book contains eight chapters with illustrations produced from actual photographs taken from life in industry. The first four chapters, "The Right to Live," "The Day's Work," "The Pay Envelope," "War or Peace," deal very pointedly with the seamy side of the labor world and portray in some instances the seeming bias of the author in favor of the ultraradicals (see pages 101, 102, 116, 132, 138, 149, 154).

In the last four chapters, "Not by Bread Alone," "Master and Man" "Men and Things," "New Frontiers," the writer takes up the constructive task of the church in carrying on its mission to the working

world. But even here the author's sympathies sag at times in favor of the ultraradicals (see pages 151, 154).

Written and published at the time of the greatest struggle the world has experienced in history, with the triumph in arms of righteousness over the most diabolical wickedness imaginable, supported by an efficient labor power in Germany, so long as loot was in sight, and by the ultraradicals in the United States, in Russia, and elsewhere, it seems to lack that moral discrimination that an adequate gospel to the working world at this time so urgently demands.

EDWIN L. EARP

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The Passing of the County Jail; Individualization of Misdemeanants through a Unified Correctional System. By STUART ALFRED QUEEN. Menasha, Wis.: The Collegiate Press, (G. Banta Pub.), 1920. xiii+158 pp. $1.50.

Dr. Queen's studies of the county jails of California are already well and favorably known. As an official jail inspector, and later as secretary of the California State Board of Charities and Corrections, he collected and published in official reports the facts relating to the jails of that state. The present volume is in a measure an outgrowth of these earlier studies, and the author draws very largely upon his California experience and upon California data in the chapters dealing with jail conditions and prisoners. Evidence has been collected, however, from other states to show that the county-jail system in other parts of the country is as bad or worse than that of California.

But the book deals largely with constructive policies, and some of the most successful substitutes for the old county-jail system are described, notably the District of Columbia Workhouse at Occaquam and the Swiss and Belgium farm colonies. The title of the book indicates that the old county-jail system is being done away with, but when Dr. Queen assembles his evidence on this point, the reader wonders whether the title is not perhaps a too optimistic one. It is to be regretted that Dr. Queen did not include a study of the adult probation system in the chapter on "Substitutes for the County Jail System." It is probably true that the "system" will disappear not so much because new and better penal institutions in the shape of farm colonies are substituted but because such institutions will become unnecessary as a result of prohibition, probation, and the substitution of the instalment-